

REMARKS

In the action of July 28, 2005, the examiner rejected claims 1-7 as anticipated by Lapin *et al.*

Applicant has amended the claims to clarify that the product is a three-dimensional structure which includes a layer of epoxy which has a thickness greater than 100 micrometers. Further, the resulting 3-D structure, following processing, has a continuously varying thickness and a smoothly varying topography. This is contrasted with the Lapin structure which, as the examiner has pointed out, is directed toward a specific resin which can be used with masks to develop a 3-D pattern. However, Lapin clearly specifies that the 3-D product comprises several successive layers, each of which is successively masked and then treated to produce the final structure.

The repeated masking and processing of successive layers of material in Lapin produces a surface which is defined by a series of discrete steps; such a surface is inherently non-continuous in thickness and does not have a smoothly varying topography.

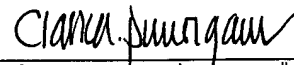
A 3-D structure with a continuously varying thickness and a smoothly varying topography (applicant's defined structure) is advantageous over the stepped topography of Lapin because they are more accurate and attractive, with thicknesses up to 2 millimeters. Because of the structural differences between the claimed product and the product described in Lapin, and since those differences are significant, claims 1, 3, 5 and 6 are allowable over the references.

Allowance of these claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

JENSEN & PUNTIGAM, P.S.

By


Clark A. Puntigam, #25,763
Attorney for Applicant

E-mail: clark@jensenpuntigam.com
(206) 448-3200
Fax: (206) 441-5514
2033 6th Avenue, Suite 1020
Seattle WA 98121
CAP:gh
Enclosures: Postcard